

Car Knocks Meter Off Building, Leaving Natural Gas Spewing From Line

North Wilkesboro firefighters and other emergency personnel responded Tuesday when a car sideswiped the end of a brick commercial building, knocking off a Frontier Natural Gas meter attached to the building and leaving natural gas spewing from an exposed gas line.

The small Chevrolet was eastbound on L Street and going toward Second Street when it ran over a stop sign and hit the end of the building occupied by Advantage Restaurant Equipment and Supply (originally a Lowes Foods supermarket) about 4:15 p.m.



Wilkes Emergency Medical Services transported the driver to Wilkes Medical Center in North Wilkesboro.

The natural gas wasn't ignited, but North Wilkesboro Fire Chief Jimmy Martin said the Chevrolet's motor was immediately turned off due to the risk of it somehow causing this to occur.

North Wilkesboro firefighters stood by with two fire hoses near the side of L Street opposite the spewing gas pipe until Frontier Natural Gas personnel arrived to turn off the gas.

The Wilkesboro, Broadway, Moravian Falls, Knotville, Mulberry-Fairplains and McGrady fire departments assisted North Wilkesboro at the scene or on standby status. The North Wilkesboro Police Department and Wilkes Sheriff's Office also were on the scene.

